GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PLANNING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4132
ANSWERED ON:20.04.2005
SHIFTING OF FARM SUBSIDIES
Satpathy Shri Tathagata;Tripathy Shri Braja Kishore

Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a)whether the Planning Commission proposes to shift farm subsidies in water, power and fertilizer to infrastructure and land use;

(b)if so, the details thereof;

(c)the reasons for withdrawal of farm subsidies;

(d)whether there is any proposal under the consideration of the Government for restructuring of farm and water sector;

(e)if so, the details thereof; and

(f)if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN)

(a) & (b): There is no specific proposal under consideration of the Planning Commission at present to shift farm subsidies in water, power and fertilizer to infrastructure and land use. There is, however, a need to review certain aspects of subsidies that tend to distort cropping patterns and could also have damaging effects on natural resources

(c): There is no proposal under consideration of the Planning Commission to discontinue the farm subsidies.

(d) to (f): The areas identified for development of farm and water sector are increasing public investment in irrigation and water resources management, watershed development and reforming and rejuvenating agricultural research and extension.